



11-30-01

RCE/1753

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor of Applicant )  
Yogaku TAKAHASHI ) Art Group: 1753  
Serial No.: 09/268,948 )  
Filing Date: March 16, 1999 )  
Title: IRON NITRITE FILM HAVING ) Examiner: G. CANTELMO  
A NITROGEN MARTENSITE )  
 $\alpha'$  PHASE WITH  $\alpha$ (200) )  
SURFACE )

#  
16/w.m.  
12/5/01RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated May 22, 2001, having a due date of August 22, 2001, which has been extended by three months by the contemporaneously filed Petition of Extension of Time, now having a due date of Friday, November 23, 2001 (due to the Thanksgiving holiday), Applicant hereby submits the following Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and RCE.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments that would speed prosecution of this case, he is invited to call the undersigned at 219/485-6001.

Respectfully submitted,

*Vincent P. Merz, Jr.*

Vincent P. Merz, Jr.  
Registration No. 45,722

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TC 1700

VPM/td

Encs: RCE  
Supplemental IDS  
Cited References  
Petition for Extension  
Of Time  
Check #5690 (\$830)  
Return Postcard

RANDALL J. KNUTH, P.C.  
3510-A Stelhorn Road  
Fort Wayne, IN 46815-4631  
Telephone: 219/485-6001  
Facsimile: 219/486-2794

"EXPRESS MAIL" Mailing Number EL161760665USDate of Deposit November 21, 2001.

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231

Vincent P. Merz, Jr. Registration No. 45,722  
(Typed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

*Vincent P. Merz, Jr.*  
(Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)